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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY East GermanyREPORT TOPIC Information on KVP Bereitschaft Halle.25X1 EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X125X1 DATE OF CONTENT 25X1 DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 17 December 1953

REFERENCES _____

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REMARKS _____

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1. KVP Bereitschaft Halle is a component unit of TV Leipzig.¹ The three motorized infantry regiments of the Bereitschaft are located as follows:

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- 1st Regt (A-Kommando) at the Reil Kaserne;
 2d Regt on Stalin Allee;
 3d Regt and Bereitschaft headquarters on Paracelsusstrasse.

The special units of the Bereitschaft were also stationed in Halle at the installations mentioned. 2

2. The Bereitschaft was organized as follows:

Headquarters,
 motor transport company,
 supply units,
 S-1 Abteilung
 S-2 " (previously D 1)
 S-3 " (" D 2)
 S-4 "
 S-5 "
 S-6 "
 SBA
 Three motorized A-Kommandos

3. Organization of the 2d A-Kommando:

	Officers	NGOs	EM
Headquarters	18	10	20
1st Abteilung	15	20	80
2d "	15	20	80
3d "	15	20	300

Of the 300 men of the 3d Abteilung at least 250 were newly recruited in the second half of August 1953. 2

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4. Officers assigned to the Bereitschaft included:

Lieutenant Colonel Scholz

CO, attached to the unit since April 1953; he replaced Major Danschke.

Major Spallek.

deputy CO.

Captain Dreissig,

chief of staff.

Major Schubert.

deputy CO and PA, attended a school in Moscow.

Captain Tautz, PKK officer,

attended a school in the USSR.

Major Hendrich,

deputy CO and officer in charge of B-matters, ex-artillery officer.

Captain Becker,

ordnance officer.

Major Wallbaum,

finance officer.

Major Kurt Meisel,

CO, 1st A-Kommando, ex-officer, Soviet ex-POW;

he directed the employment of the

unit against the workers on 17 June.

In the spring of 1953, he supervised a course

given in Leipzig, allegedly a course in

counter-intelligence.

Captain Peters,

deputy PA officer of the 1st A-Kommando; on

25 August, he was detached to the PK school

in Treptow.

Captain Hoffmann,

CO of the 2d A-Kommando, Soviet ex-POW.

Major Liebstrau,

CO, 3d A-Kommando, ex-officer, Soviet ex-POW,

until 6 April 1953, he belonged to

a KVP unit in Torgau.

Captain Liesker,

deputy PA officer of the 3d A-Kommando.

5. The unit was equipped with 1,000 submachine guns, 30 carbines, and an undetermined number of light and heavy machine guns and AT guns. The submachine guns were picked up by truck at the TV Leipzig after 17 June 1953. Motor vehicles available to the outfit included 60 model H3 A trucks, 15 model ZIS-150 trucks, 2 model Phaenomen Granit-27 ambulances, 1 BMW command car, 1 model ZIS-151 tank truck, 5x5-ton trailers, 3x3-ton trailers, 30 motorcycles, 20 sedans, 40 bicycles (S-1 Abteilung), and 2 model Bobby armored scout cars (S-1 Abteilung). Another 12 model H-6 trucks and 15 model ZIS-151 repair shop trucks were transferred by the unit to an undetermined place.
6. About 20 percent of the personnel of the unit belonged to the 1936 class, 25 percent to the 35 class, 10 percent each to the 34 and 33 classes, 15 percent to the 32 class, 5 percent to the 31 class, and 15 percent belonged to older classes. About 85 percent of the personnel had served up to three years, 10 percent from three to five years, the remainder had served longer. About 25 percent of the effectives came from Saxony, 15 percent from Saxony-Anhalt, 25 percent from Thuringia, 10 percent from Brandenburg, 20 percent from Mecklenburg, and 5 percent from Berlin. About 20 percent of the personnel were loyal to the regime, 40 percent were indifferent, and 40 percent were secret opponents. Two Soviet advisers ranking as lieutenant colonels and wearing KVP uniforms were attached to the unit.
7. About 150 officers, 150 NCOs and 250 EM were discharged from Bereitschaft Halle for various reasons. The discharged officers were ordered to keep ready for service with the KVP at any time. The Registrierstellen (recruiting offices) were informed accordingly.

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8. On 22 July 1953, each of 10 model H3 A trucks was loaded with 10 boxes containing 20 carbines each, while each of 5 other trucks was loaded with 10 boxes containing 20 ~~sub~~machine guns each. The convoy reported on 23 July at the headquarters of the Sea Police in Stralsund. The convoy which was then escorted by Sea Police officers proceeded to various stations of the Sea Police where the weapons were distributed and the German weapons previously used by these units picked up. The German weapons of the Sea Police were then trucked to the Central Ordnance Depot in Kirchhain-Dobrilugk, where they were taken over by vehicles of the KVDVP.
9. Most of the students of the KVP signal officer candidate school on Paracelsusstrasse in Halle were transferred as NCO instructors to Bereitschaft Halle. Other NCOs arrived from the infantry officer candidate schools in Naumburg and Erfurt. 3

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2. Comment. This organizational set-up has been changed in the mean time. The units mentioned have been merged with the newly organized Infantry Bereitschaft Halle, of which component units are located also in Leipzig and Weissenfels.

3. Comment. Detailed information on the signal school in Halle was contained in a previous report.

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